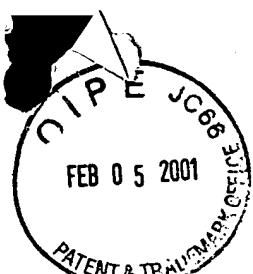


Customer No. 23932



PATENT

#610
X. Cobb
3/30/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application Of:) Atty. Docket No.: 47097-00057
Toby R. Thomas)
Samuel D. Aversa) Examiner: Not Assigned
John D. Athans) Art Unit: 3727
Application No.: 09/422,510)
Filed: October 21, 1999)
For: Fill-Through-The-Top Package And)
Method And Apparatus For Making)
The Same)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Attn: Box Non-Fee Amendment, Washington, D.C. 20231, on February 1, 2001.

Signature: Janet L. Newmaker
Janet L. Newmaker

THIRD PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Attn: Box Non-Fee Amendment

Dear Sir:

Prior to examining the subject divisional application, please enter the following amendments.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 9-39.

Please amend claim 61.

9 61. (Amended) A method of making and filling packages, comprising:
providing a plastic web and a fastener in a longitudinal direction;
folding the web to provide first and second opposing panels joined along a
longitudinal bottom [fold];

RECEIVED
FEB 9 2001
TC 3700 MAIL ROOM